

REMARKS

Claims 2, 5-7, 9, 10, 15, 16, 21, 25-29 are present in this application. Claims 9, 15, 21, and 27-29 are independent claims. Claims 27-29 have been added without presenting new matter, and claims 13, 19, 23, and 24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the claimed subject matter.

§ 102(b) Rejection

Claims 2, 5-7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Application Publication 2002/0049787 (Keely). Applicants have amended the claims. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection based on the claims as amended.

Applicants note that the statement of rejection does not indicate claim 2, which appears to be a typographical error.

Summary of the Present Application

The present application discloses an enhanced annotation mechanism in which annotations and related context in an electronic document can be grouped into “bounding boxes,” (e.g., Fig. 4) which have properties such as can be adjusted in size and shape (para. [42]), combined (Fig. 5), or ordered (para. [45]). Furthermore, “bounding boxes” are separate entities and may be separately rendered from each other (para. [43]), and may be combined into larger composite bounding boxes (para. [44]).

According to the present specification, annotations, context and bounding boxes can be individually displayed as “clips.” (para. [51]; Figs. 7 and 8). Clips, in turn, have properties that they can be ordered (Figs. 9 and 10), filtered (para. [53]), and annotated (para. [62]). In general, clips resemble the bounding boxes, annotations and related context that have been clipped out of original electronic documents for display in various arrangements (e.g., as shown in Figs. 9 and 10). Clips can be linked together (Fig. 11), and be provided with links back to the original electronic document from which they were derived (para. [60]).

In addition, the present application discloses a capability of annotating active content, where active content is content that changes over time (para. [63]). In order to create a clip of annotated active content, a static image of active content can be captured and stored. Alternatively, the active content itself, or a link to the active content, can be stored locally for later association with the annotation.

Keely

Keely is directed to a refined ink annotation system, that improves the accuracy that ink annotations may be properly displayed as intended (Abstract and description of use of file position to anchor the ink or annotation, at para. [0046]). The ink annotations are stored with additional information that allows various described methods to associate ink with displayed elements. Among the additional information are properties that enable sorting, modifying, searching, and renaming annotations stored in the system. A display window provides an interface for performing the sorting and searching operations on the annotations, from which one can navigate to the location in the document containing the annotation. In addition, the interface allows one to remove, change the appearance of, hide, or show a particular annotation. (see Fig. 9 and associated description at para. [0078]).

Differences over Keely

Generally, where Keely discloses a mechanism for creating annotations, the present application provides additional features for handling annotations that have been created with an annotation mechanism. The present application relates to a mechanism for grouping and manipulating annotations and related context separate from the underlying electronic document. Annotations and related context which are separate from the electronic document are rendered and displayed as “clips.” In addition, the present application provides features for handling annotations that have been entered for content that changes over time, referred to as active content.

Keely, on the other hand, provides some limited capabilities for manipulating annotations, such as sorting and searching (e.g., Keely at Fig. 9). The present application takes

such limited manipulation capabilities further, by enabling display of regions containing the annotations and related context, as separate displayed “clips.” which themselves can be ordered, filtered and annotated. Keely does not teach “clips” as disclosed in the present application.

CLAIMS 9, 15

Claims 9 and 15 have been amended to clarify that the set of annotation and related context are received from display regions of document(s) (e.g., step 703 of Fig. 7). In addition, claims 9 and 15 have been amended to clarify that clips are rendered as images obtained from the displayed regions (e.g., step 706 of Fig. 7).

Unlike, Keely’s listing of annotations, as in Fig. 9, the claimed invention works with display regions of a document(s) having an annotation and related content, combines display regions, filters the display regions, and renders an image including a clip having the filtered combination of display regions (e.g., steps shown in Figs. 7 and 8).

Applicants submit that Keely fails to disclose each and every claimed element as recited in claims 9 and 15, as amended.

CLAIMS 27, 28 (former claims 13, 19)

Claims 27 and 28 replace former claims 13 and 19, respectively. Claims 27 and 28 cover the disclosed features related to active content, as shown for example in Fig. 12, and described in paragraph [63] of the present specification.

Unlike Keely, the claimed invention works with an annotation that is provided for an active content displayed in a user interface. Unlike Keely, the claimed invention stores a link to the active content, and an image having clips, where one of the clips has the annotation and a static image of the active content, is rendered and displayed. The stored link enables access to the active content by selection of the annotation in the clip.

Applicants submit that Keely fails to disclose each and every claimed element as recited in claims 27 and 28.

CLAIM 21

Claim 21 has been amended to clarify differences between the claimed clips, which comprise an annotation and associated content portion or combination of filtered annotations, and are rendered as an image, and Keely's classification of stroke "shape," as described in paras. [0016] and [0101], as well as [0102].

Applicants submit that Keely fails to disclose each and every claimed element as recited in claim 21, as amended.

CLAIM 29 (former claim 23)

Claim 23 has been rewritten as new claim 29 in order to cover the claimed link (from original claim 13) in combination with the active content of claim 23. As disclosed in the present specification (e.g., para. [63]), an active content having an associated annotation may be captured as a static image, that can be displayed as a clip including the annotation. In addition, a link to the content that was displayed at the time of annotation may be stored. Subsequently, selection of the annotation displayed in the clip can access the associated active content. These features are presented in new claim 29.

Applicants submit that unlike Keely's Fig. 8B, the claimed invention provides links to active content, such that selection of an annotation in a clip will access the active content. Applicant submits that Keely fails to disclose this as well as other features covered by claim 29 as a whole.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Keely does not anticipate the claimed invention. Applicants request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact **Robert Downs** Reg. No. 48,222 at

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the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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